



# News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **DPSCS and MSDE To Unveil New Mobile Education/Library Unit for Soon-to-be-Released Inmates**

***August 22 at 12:30 p.m. At 920 Forrest Street in Baltimore***

TOWSON, MD (August 16, 2007)---The successful partnership between two agencies committed to reducing recidivism among ex-offenders takes another step forward on Wednesday, August 22, when the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services and the Maryland State Department of Education cut the ribbon on the **Correctional Education Transition Mobile Unit. The ceremonial ribbon cutting and tour is at 12:30 p.m. at the Occupational Skills Training Center for correctional education at 920 Forrest Street, just off Greenmount and Madison in Baltimore.**

The new mobile unit contains transitional information and library services for pre-release inmates to help prepare them for release into the community. It will travel statewide as a major addition to the DPSCS-MSDE Correctional Education partnership.

Inmates who have achieved degrees, job skill training, and educational services in prison are more likely to be employable upon their release---and thus less likely to re-offend. Thanks in large part to funding from Maryland Correctional Enterprises, the Division of Correction's prison industry agency, correctional education continues to be a strong focus in inmate re-entry efforts.

Maryland's Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services and Department of Education have a strong working relationship at prisons all over the state, including vocational training programs, GED and degree-level coursework, and job skill services. The Occupational Skills Training Center In Baltimore provides highly successful training programs for soon-to-be-released inmates in a variety of vocations.

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